

National Aeronautics and Space Administration



**Headquarters**

Washington, DC 20546-0001

August 22, 2019

Office of Communications

Dan McGrath  
Counsel  
American Oversight Organization  
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Suite B255  
Washington, DC 20005  
[foia@americanoversight.org](mailto:foia@americanoversight.org)

FOIA: 19-HQ-F-00612

Dear Mr. McGrath:

This is in response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated June 25, 2019, and received at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Headquarters FOIA Office on June 26, 2019. Your request was assigned FOIA Case Number 19-HQ-F-00612 and was for:

All email communications (including emails, email attachments, and calendar invitations) between (1) political appointees\* at NASA (including, at least, Robert Lightfoot, Erik Noble, Rodney Liesveld, Tori Quinn Symonds, Jaffrey Waksman, Jonathan William Dimock, Brandon Eden, and Greg Autry) and (2) Mark T. Esper or any other individual communicating from an email address ending in raytheon.com. Please provide all responsive records from January 20, 2017, through November 20, 2017.

\*“Political appointee” should be understood as any person who is a Presidential Appointee with Senate Confirmation (PAS), a Presidential Appointee (PA), a Non-career SES, any Schedule C employees, or any persons hired under Temporary Non-career SES Appointments, Limited Term SES Appointments, or Temporary Transitional Schedule C Appointments.

Pursuant to your conversation with Ms. Gramian June 26, 2019, the NASA Headquarters Program Offices of the Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs (OLIA), Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO), and the Office of the Space Technology Mission Directorate (STMD), has conducted a search for responsive emails search using the

information you provided above. Specifically, we have conducted a search for responsive emails between NASA Employee Mr. Robert Lightfoot, and the Political Appointees, Mr. Johnathan Dimock, and Mr. Brandon Eden and these selected Raytheon employees: Mark T. Esper, Joseph Zummo, Eric Hannis, Brandon Milhorn, Robert Neal, Jennifer Gallagher, Emily Sass, William Marsh, Ryan Crumpler, Timothy Prince, Jack Livingston, Courtney Watson, and no responsive emails were located.

Please be advised, we were unable to conduct a search for emails on the following individuals Mr. Erik Noble, Mr. Rodney Liesveld, Mr. Tory Quinn Symonds, Mr. Jeffrey Waksman, and Mr. Gene Autry, as they are no longer employed at NASA and their emails have been deleted.

You have the right under 14 CFR §1206.700 to appeal this determination within 90 days from the date of this letter. Your appeal must be in writing and should be addressed to:

Administrator  
NASA Headquarters  
Executive Secretariat  
MS 9R17  
Washington, DC 20546  
ATTN: FOIA Appeals

Your appeal should be marked “Appeal under the Freedom of Information Act” both on the envelope and the face of the letter. A copy of your initial request along with a copy of this correspondence and any other correspondence with the FOIA office must be enclosed. In order to expedite the appellate process and ensure full consideration of your appeal, your appeal should also contain a brief statement of the reasons you believe this response to be in error.

Prior to filing an appeal, you may contact the Chief FOIA Public Liaison to obtain further assistance or seek dispute resolution services for any aspect of your request. You may also send correspondence to the following address:

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)  
Freedom of Information Act Unit  
NASA Headquarters  
Attn: Stephanie Fox  
Chief FOIA Public Liaison  
300 E Street, S.W., 5P32  
Washington D.C. 20546  
Email: [stephanie.k.fox@nasa.gov](mailto:stephanie.k.fox@nasa.gov)  
Telephone: 202.358.1553  
(Fax) 202-358-4331

Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA dispute resolution services it offers. The contact information for OGIS is:

Office of Government Information Services  
National Archives and Records Administration  
8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS  
College Park, Maryland 20740-6001  
Email: [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov)  
[Telephone: \(202\) 741-5770](tel:(202)741-5770)  
[Toll free: 1-877-684-6448](tel:1-877-684-6448)  
[Fax: \(202\) 741-5769](tel:(202)741-5769)

**Important:** Please note that contacting any agency official including the undersigned or NASA's Principal FOIA Officer and/or OGIS referenced above is not an alternative to filing an administrative appeal and does not stop the 90 day appeal clock.

In accordance with § 1206.804 (c), after consultation with the NASA Headquarters General Counsel Office, I am the official responsible for the denial of your request.

In accordance with NASA's FOIA Regulation fees are under \$50.00, and are not being charged in accordance with 14 CFR § 1206.503(c). If you have any other questions, please feel free to contact me at 202-358-2462 or [hq-foia@nasa.gov](mailto:hq-foia@nasa.gov).

Sincerely,



Josephine Sibley  
Headquarters  
FOIA Public Liaison Officer